

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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PRESS RELEASE

U. S. GOVERNMENT PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK

DHAKA, JANUARY 28, 2008 -- The United States Government donated 10,000 sets of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the Government of Bangladesh in support of strengthening avian influenza prevention and control. Each PPE set consists of coveralls, shoe covers, a respirator, goggles, an apron, and inner and outer gloves. PPEs are critical in protecting Government livestock officers and reducing possibilities of contamination as experts cull flocks, collect samples for verification of the H5N1 virus, and bury the infected poultry. The Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, received the donation on Sunday, January 27, 2008.

The American Mission in Dhaka has worked closely with partners and the Government of Bangladesh in prevention and control of avian influenza this past year, including training Department of Livestock Services officials in the proper use of PPEs, testing, and disposal of infected poultry. Prior to this shipment of PPEs, the U.S. Government supplied 6,500 PPE kits, 20 decontamination kits, and 4,000 rapid antigen kits to the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock in preparation for urgent response to avian influenza outbreaks. The American Mission will continue to collaborate on avian influenza initiatives as well as to provide ongoing support for the reconstruction efforts after Cyclone Sidr.

GR/ 2008

Note: A Bangla translation of this article is also available at the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: DhakaPA@state.gov; Website: [http:// dhaka.usembassy.gov](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov)

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